



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL L. PRINCE  
CHAIR

**Horatio S. Earle Learning Center  
Tuesday, March 6, 2018  
9:00 a.m.  
MEETING MINUTES**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
Jennifer Shea	Governor's Office
Sheriff Matt Saxton	Local Representative
Lawrence Hummel	Local Representative
Michael Prince (Chair)	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Carol Reagan	Michigan Department of State (MDOS)
Kenneth Micklash	Michigan Department of Education (MDE)
Tari Muniz	Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA)
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
F/Lt. Jim Flegel	Michigan Department of State Police (MSP)
Kim Avery	Michigan Department of Transportation
Chief James Carmody	Local Representative
Linda Scarpetta	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
<b>STAFF SUPPORT</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
Kara Rueckert	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
<b>GUESTS</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
Carissa McQuiston	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Charlotte Kilvington	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Jessica Riley	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
John Wallace	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
Brandon Cannon	Michigan Department of State (MDOS)
Bobby Gwizdz	Michigan Department of State (MDOS)
Sgt. Tim Fitzgerald	Michigan State Police (MSP)
Steve Shaughnessy	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Angie Kremer	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The GTSAC meeting was called to order by Chair Michael Prince at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was present for today's meeting.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Prince welcomed everyone to today's meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Muniz made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2017, GTSAC meeting, Mr. Hummel supported, the motion carries.

**STANDING REPORTS**

**Legislative Summary**

Sgt. Tim Fitzgerald gave a brief update of current activity at the Capitol on items related to the GTSAC.

Michael L. Prince, Chair, Office of Highway Safety Planning • Jennifer Shea, Governor's Office • Carol Reagan, Department of State • Kimberly Avery, Department of Transportation • Linda Scarpetta, Department of Health and Human Services • Kenneth Micklash, Department of Education • F/Lt. Jim Flegel, Department of State Police • Tari Muniz, Aging and Adult Services Agency • Lawrence E. Hummel, Local Representative • Chief James Carmody, Local Representative • Sheriff Matt Saxton, Local Representative

MDOT and MSP have been asked to meeting with the transportation committees to discuss why speed limits are not being raised; they would like more speed limits raised in more areas, beyond the pilot areas. MDOT will defer to MSP on the decision, but would like more time to collect data; MSP agrees. The situation will be elevated as directors have been asked to weigh in.

HB 4265: bicycle safety/safe passing distance (5 foot gap); MSP unsure how this will be enforced. Enforcement is not currently happening unless there is a crash. There is a committee coming in today that would reduce the distance to three feet to the left of the bicycle, or a safe distance if three feet is not possible. MSP looking for a broader language. Still in the Senate.

HB 4466: hands free/take away all device use; MSP very supportive, but cannot get the votes to get it out of the committee right now.

SB 521: codifies what happens during a power outage; signaled intersection where the power is down should be treated as a four way stop

SB 4919: amend vehicle code; motorcycles can process if they are marked with a bright orange flag at the beginning and end of the procession; civil infraction if vehicle intervenes.

Window tint bill (5634) in house today; would eliminate tint restrictions.

Driver responsibility fees have been repealed; law will no longer be in effect October 1, 2018. Two conditions: drivers that entered into payment agreements with treasury on or before February 1 will be eligible to have their license reinstated; drivers who don't have a payment agreement will be responsible for the DRF fees until expiration of law/not liable after that and can reinstate driving privileges.

Question from Angie Kramer—SB 477: move over, question on status; has not been taken up in house committee.

## **Commissioner Reports**

### **Michigan Department of Education – Kenneth Micklash**

A subcommittee of the Pupil Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) is working to develop two new Advisory and Guidance Practices for the following topics: Usage of Vehicles with Seating Capacities of Eleven or Less and Schools of Choice Transportation Considerations. These advisory practices will provide Michigan school district needed guidance with addressing issues related to these topics.

Michigan will participate again in the national school bus illegal passing survey. The survey date will either be the first or second Wednesday of May.

### **Local Representative – Larry Hummel**

- CRA of Michigan 100th Anniversary being celebrated at its annual conference, March 13-15, 2018 in Lansing.
- The Michigan Legislature has introduced two bills affecting the “move over” law and the “green light” law. HB 5381 expands the “green light” law so that a privately owned vehicle being used in a road maintenance, repair, or construction project can be equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating green lights. HB 5382 extends the “move over” law so that it applies to a construction worker, which is defined as “an individual performing construction, maintenance, surveying, or utility work as part of a road maintenance, repair, or construction project, including setting up, maintaining, or taking down a work zone, if a road maintenance or construction vehicle is present in the area where the individual is performing the work and the vehicle displays flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber or green lights.” The CRA and the MCRCSIP and their membership have concerns over the bills and their potential to dilute the intent of the current language and potentially cause confusion in the mind of drivers approaching said equipment

with green lights. We feel that the changes proposed will only create an unsafe situation for our crews.

- \$175 million of additional General Fund money soon to be distributed to all Act 51 agencies across the State. With the increases continuing from the 2015 infrastructure funding package and these new revenues there will continue to be a significant increase in activity across the State in road, bridge and infrastructure work. This means more potential interactions with the motoring public and thus a need for even more outreach from our road agencies to educate their constituents on the need to slow down in and around the work zones popping up all around.
- Seasonal Weight Restrictions are in place and road conditions are some the worst seen in years due to the abnormal weather this winter. Heavy snow in many areas, followed by record warm weather and rain causing record flooding in some parts of the State and then pothole Armageddon. Crews statewide are working hard to get caught up even as the snow is once again flying.

### **Michigan Department of State - Carol Reagan**

#### *New Driver Appeal Integrated System (DAIS)*

Last week, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced the "Driver Appeal Integrated System" (DAIS), an online system that will help customers, attorneys, prosecutors and law enforcement officers involved in the administrative hearings process. Driver's license hearings are scheduled when motorists wish to appeal the denial or revocation of their driver's license. System features include:

- Hearing requests, payments, required documents and transcripts are provided and submitted electronically.
- In addition to scheduling a hearing, all hearing notifications, including hearing dates, adjournments, withdrawals and notice of final hearing decisions are sent via email.
- Circuit court petitions and orders regarding license appeal matters can be handled through the new system.

#### *Motorcycle Safety and Education Awareness Fund Proposal*

A committee comprised of Department of State and OHSP staff is collaborating to prepare a proposal for Department of State management consideration on how best to utilize the new Motorcycle Safety and Education Awareness Fund that was created via PA 115 of 2017. Funds are estimated at \$250,000 annually, and collection of them started in January.

#### *MDOS, Customer Services Administration*

Mike Wartella, Customer Services Administration Director for the Department of State, recently announced that he is retiring effective March 30. And Fred Bueter, Bureau of Driver and Vehicle Programs Director, retired in December 2017. These two positions are the first and second line management for the Traffic Safety Programs Division. At this time, there are no traffic safety related staff changes.

#### *Driver Responsibility Fees – Summary Changes*

The Michigan Driver Responsibility Fee Law or DRF will no longer be in affect beginning this fall - Oct. 1, 2018. The DRF law requires drivers to pay a fee or fees, based on specific traffic violations or the number of points on the driving record. Under legislation that was recently signed by the governor, two conditions exist that affect drivers, depending on their status under the DRF law:

- Drivers that entered into payment agreements with Michigan Department of Treasury on or before Feb. 1, 2018, will be eligible to have their licenses reinstated when the legislation is enacted so long as there is nothing else that prohibits eligibility.
- Drivers who do not have a payment agreement with Treasury will still be responsible for any DRF fees until the expiration of the DRF law on Oct. 1, 2018. After that date, an individual would not be liable for an outstanding DRF and could reinstate his or her driving privileges so long as there is nothing else that prohibits eligibility.

The Michigan Department of State is working with the Michigan Department of Treasury to update the DRF website with new information and develop a strategy for how best to implement the law and communicate with motorists who have a DRF assessment.

*Safe Drivers Smart Options: Keys to Lifelong Mobility*

The Safe Drivers Smart Options (SDSO): Keys to Lifelong Mobility is Michigan's statewide strategy to support the safe mobility of Michigan's aging adults. It is an evidence-based initiative supported by a group of dedicated public and private partners. In 2017, an Operating Committee was established and an Annual Report is near finalization that highlights 2017 accomplishments and the projected 2018 activities.

- In 2017:
  - The integrity of the SDSO site was maintained through regular monitoring of resource links and responding to public requests
  - Stats on visitors to the site have been tracked and reported monthly
  - A new Question/Comment feature was added to the SDSO home page
  - A subcommittee has drafted a new edition of the *Michigan's Guide for Aging Drivers and Their Families* that will complement the SDSO site.
  - A Communications Subcommittee was established to develop a plan to raise awareness of the site. The Subcommittee began meeting in May 2017 and has prioritized related research-based recommendations and created an action plan. SDSO announcements for Elderly Driver Week December 4-8 were picked up by news agencies around the state. SDSO speaking points have been drafted for stakeholders as well as text for adding a link to stakeholder sites.
- 2018 activities will include:
  - Monthly SDSO meetings (Odd months Communications, even months Operating Committee)
  - Develop and finalize a process to add new content/resources to the SDSO site and begin adding new resources
  - Identify funding sources for activities as appropriate
  - Finalize a communication plan to promote the SDSO website
  - Produce videos to raise awareness of the SDSO site and resources available in Michigan (Currently Health Care Professionals, General Audience, Driver Referral Process)
  - Print and begin distribution of the revised *Michigan's Guide for Aging Drivers and Their Families*, which will more fully complement the SDSO site

**Governor's Office – Jennifer Shea**

There will be two CEU trainings this month: March 18 and 19.

Currently working on the May CPS Conference, which will take place in Mt. Pleasant. Vehicle and car seat manufacturers will be present to give updates. Registration will open in early April.

The first hot vehicle death of the year occurred in Florida in February; this took place one month earlier than last year.

The National CPS Board has put a push for courses in May. Courses will also take place throughout the summer. Information can be found on the CPS website.

**Aging and Adults Services Agency – Tari Muniz**

AASA continues to participate in the Senior Mobility Work and the Safe Drivers, Smart Options operations and communications teams. May 16, 2018, is Older Michiganian Day and we will again distribute the Aging Driver Guide.

### **Local Representative – Sheriff Matt Saxton**

Law enforcement is hoping to see more traffic enforcement across the state with the better weather coming. The reduction is also due to staff levels.

Pedestrian deaths report that Mr. Prince sent out was astonishing; 16.4% increase in deaths in the first half of 2017 coincides with the legalization of marijuana.

### **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Linda Scarpetta (absent with notice, sent report)**

Safe Kids Day is April 29 and local coalitions are hosting their own community events throughout the month of April and May to elevate child passenger safety and injury prevention for children.

In 2017, there were 42 vehicle-related heat stroke deaths nationally and Michigan had zero for the third year in a row. MDHHS has submitted a Governor's Proclamation request to make May 25, 2018, "Heat Stroke Prevention Awareness Day" in Michigan, with the support from partners at DOS and MSP. Jan Null, a researcher with the Department of Meteorology & Climate Science at San Jose State University, monitors this nationally and has released a report ([http://noheatstroke.org/Heatstroke\\_Trends.pdf](http://noheatstroke.org/Heatstroke_Trends.pdf)) and also tracks state laws to address the issue (<http://noheatstroke.org/legal.htm>). The first vehicle-related heat stroke death for 2018 occurred on 2/28/18 in Florida.

### **Chair's report / Office of Highway Safety Planning - Michael Prince**

2017 Traffic Fatalities/Injuries: The Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center reports 1,032 people died on Michigan roadways as of March 5, 2018. Compared to last year, there are 26 fatalities. In this same timeframe, there have been 6,080 A/serious injuries, up 540 from a year ago. For 2018, CJIC reports 98 traffic deaths and 673 serious injuries. This is down 11 deaths from a year ago and 28 fewer serious injuries.

OHSP Position Vacancies: Mallory Fox joined OHSP. Her duties will include providing administrative support for state and federal traffic safety programming. She will also serve as Executive Secretary while Kara Rueckert is out on maternity leave in April. Mallory is a graduate of Michigan State University and previously worked for St. Robert of Newminster Parish as an administrative assistant and event coordinator. Kari Arend joined OHSP Communications as a Communications Strategist. Her duties will include publicizing enforcement mobilizations and assigned traffic safety program areas. Kari is a graduate of Michigan State University and has served as a communications representative with the Michigan Department of Transportation since 1998. Jon Ross joined the OHSP as Senior Editor. His duties will include publications such as Annual Evaluation Reports, the *Safety Network* newsletter, and OHSP's vast library of traffic safety public information materials. Jon is a graduate of Michigan State University. Before his most recent position with Wolf Creek Productions, Jon was a sports anchor/reporter at WILX-TV.

Michigan Traffic Safety Summit: As of March 2, there were approximately 500 people registered for the event. This year's event will include a Tuesday evening reception at the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum in Lansing. The GTSAC Awards Program will take place on March 21. Eleven people will be recognized.

Impaired Driving Commission: The OHSP director attended the first meeting of the commission on January 29. Generated under Act 350 of 2016, the commission is established within the MSP and is chaired by Colonel Etue. The commission is charged with researching and recommending a "*scientifically supported*" threshold of THC bodily content to provide evidence for per se driving in this state. Based on the most current national research, a quantitative threshold for per se laws for THC following cannabis use cannot be scientifically supported. Future meetings of the Commission have been scheduled in April, July, and October for further discussions.

FY18 Traffic Enforcement Campaigns: April is Distracted Driving Awareness month. The next mandatory traffic enforcement mobilization will take place April 9-22 and will focus on distracted driving.

Additional earned-media activity is being planned to publicize the dangers of distracted driving. Michigan currently does not qualify for federal funding earmarked for distracted driving programming since our State law allows texting while stopped in traffic.

Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Program: Phase 1 of the 2018 DRE School concluded February 2 with all 28 attendees (22 law enforcement and 6 prosecutors) successfully passing the 100-question exam. The average score was 97%. The law enforcement participants will now participate in Phase 2, a week-long field certification training in Arizona in February/March. Those who pass the field certification will be certified as a DRE.

NHTSA Ped/Bike Assessment: A national assessment team was in Michigan last week conducting a statewide pedestrian and bicycle safety assessment. The assessment looked at policies and programs in place and provided a report on recommendations to the OHSP on how to make improvements to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries.

Sobriety Court training: The National Center for Drug Courts conducted an Operational Tune-Up training for four Michigan Sobriety Court Teams February 12-13. This training assisted established courts in tuning up and improving their operational structure.

2018 Michigan Bike Conference: Dates have been set for June 1-2, 2018, at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids.

2018 Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Conference: A CPS conference will take place May 23-24 at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant.

Questions regarding the commission meetings also posed: are there things we can do to enhance the commission meetings? In the winter we do tend to have less people come out due to weather, but are there ways to make the meetings more valuable? The executive order that created the commission only requires one meeting annually. We can look at moving meetings to other locations, more/less meetings annually, web-casting meetings, etc.

Tari Muniz thinks quarterly meetings allows a good balance, she appreciates the meetings that have a learning aspect (presentation) included. If anyone has a presentation they would like to include, please contact Kara so we can get it on the schedule. Jen Shea likes the idea of webcasting because of weather.

Chief Carmody will be retiring from public safety effective April 26. We will work with the Governor's appointments office to arrange his replacement.

#### **Action team Updates – Carissa McQuiston**

Work is underway between OHSP and MDOT to develop the four year update to the SHSP (2019-2022). Process will begin with an email survey and MDOT will do informal focus group meetings beginning in May to meet with different stakeholders for their input on what we're doing to see if it is still relevant. Submission of plan will be under the new administration. Action teams will also be updating their plans. SHSP meeting in February discussed any issues going on with the action teams/meetings; great turn out and productive meeting. Ped/bike group will use the assessment information to help develop their plan. Accomplishments from the teams are due June 1.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Angie Kremer: Train-the-trainer session for ; 50 new instructors. Average for those going out and training is 20%; our average is close to 60%. Getting close to goal of having first responders trained. Update for existing instructors and getting material out to them.

Jessica Riley: Michigan Traffic Crash Facts updates; new functionality on query tool to allow different ways to look at map data (one area, one county); sponsoring two IPTM traffic crash reconstructionist trainings this year.

John: learning curve with electronic logging devices; manufacturers had to self-certify that all devices work, but they do not. Agricultural community is not familiar with everything they do and don't need to do (within 150 miles of their farm, they do not need to log at all); re-educating agricultural community. Soft enforcement going on right now because this is so new; working with state police to do more education than enforcement at this time.

John: HB 4839—gives DOS authority to deny/suspend CMV drivers; added tool to make the roads safer by taking the carriers ability away to operate under another name.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at the Horatio S. Earle Learning Center.